

THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 21, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 2070

RED CROSS HELD ANNUAL ELECTION

Yearly Meeting Held at Court House in Ithaca Wednesday Afternoon.

F. L. CONVIS WAS RE-ELECTED

W. A. Bahke is Vice Chairman and Francis King is the New Treasurer.

The annual meeting of the Gratiot county chapter of the Red Cross was held at the court house in Ithaca Wednesday afternoon, and directors and officers were elected. F. L. Convis again heads the county organization.

The directors elected for two years were William A. Bahke of Alma, Mrs. R. H. Wilcox of Alma, Mrs. G. P. Brown of Ithaca, Walter Swope of Riverdale, Gertrude A. Lewis of Ashley, John R. Hudson of Middleton, and Ernest Muscott of Emerson.

The directors elected for the three years' period were Helen McCormick of Ithaca, Francis King of Alma, B. N. Hubbard of St. Louis, A. F. Crawford of Breckenridge, W. H. Davis of Perrinton, I. F. Tucker of Sumner, and Pearl Eyer of North Star.

The seven directors who hold over for another year are F. L. Convis of Ithaca, Mrs. Henry Soule of Alma, Mrs. Mary Andrews of St. Louis, I. F. Hilsinger of Elwell, Adam Johnson of Wheeler, Harry Reid of Pompeii and J. T. Matthews of Ithaca.

The following executive committee was elected: William A. Bahke of Alma, F. L. Convis of Ithaca, Walter Swope of Riverdale, Mrs. Henry H. Soule of Alma, J. T. Matthews of Ithaca, Mrs. Lydia Peet of North Star, A. F. Crawford of Breckenridge, and Mrs. Mary Andrews of St. Louis.

Following the election of the directors and the executive committee, the officers for the coming year were elected. They are as follows: Chairman, F. L. Convis; vice chairman, William A. Bahke; secretary, J. T. Matthews; treasurer, Francis King.

GOOD GAME

High Schoolers Defeated in a Sea of Mud by Score of 7 to 0.

Playing in a sea of mud the Alma high school football team was defeated by Mt. Pleasant high on Davis field Saturday by a score of 7 to 0, in a game which was marked by the brilliant playing of the locals, who gained twice the yardage during the battle that the visiting team made.

During the first half neither team was able to score, although Alma twice made serious threats to cross the visitors' goal. During this time Alma held the leads from the Normal town safe, and they were unable to get within striking distance of the Alma goal.

In the third quarter Alma received the kick and marched the ball down the field for into Mt. Pleasant territory, finally losing it on downs by a few inches. The visitors carried the ball back to midfield, where Chambers broke away for a fifty yard run, scoring the only touchdown of the game. Goal was kicked making the count, Mt. Pleasant 7, Alma 0.

Alma received the next kickoff, and fought hard to score. The ball was again carried into Mt. Pleasant territory, where the Mt. Pleasant team held, forcing Alma to punt. Mt. Pleasant carried the ball to the Alma thirty, where she was held for downs as the quarter ended.

Alma started the fourth quarter with a determination to score. The ball was carried far into Mt. Pleasant territory, finally being lost on downs, after a forward pass had been dropped, the runner having a clear field to the goal, losing a chance to tie up the score.

Time after time during the game Alma forced the visitors to punt to safety from the shadow of the Mt. Pleasant goal, and then carried the ball back only to lose it again, within striking distance of the goal.

The defense of the Alma team was strong throughout the game, the visitors being unable to punch the line or circle the ends once they got well within Alma territory. Chambers' lucky break from midfield being the deciding point of the game.

Stearns and Blank featured the game for the locals in every department, while Chambers and Peas were the stars for the visiting aggregation.

HEAD COLLEGES OF THE STATE

In the matter of aiding the United War Work campaign the students of Alma college have placed the Presbyterian institution at the head of the smaller Michigan colleges. Over \$1,600 was subscribed for the United War work at Alma college, nearly \$300 more than was subscribed at Albion. The students feel highly elated over the success of the local college campaign.

George H. Carl is in Elwell on business today.

FLU LID ON

Health Department Clamped on Lid Again as Disease Spreads.

The Spanish influenza lid was again clamped on in Alma last Friday, all public places again being closed up as a preventative measure, and an aid in keeping the disease from spreading in the city.

The latter part of the week a large number of new cases of influenza were reported to the health department from various parts of the city, and as a result a meeting of the health board was called to discuss the situation. It was decided at that time to close up the public places again until such time as the department believes that there is no danger from a further spread of the disease.

Alma has been particularly fortunate so far in regard to the influenza epidemic, this city having had about as few cases of the disease as any place in the state, and the department is determined to keep the epidemic from gaining a good foothold in Alma if possible.

Recently, as the disease showed signs of abating, not only here, but throughout the state, it was expected that the flu lid would be taken off entirely. It was taken off for the church services a week ago Sunday, but remained off less than a week, owing to the discovery of the new cases in Alma.

There are more cases of influenza in Alma than at any time since the epidemic first hit Michigan. This is not only true of Alma, but in several other cities of the state, particularly in Bay City, where from fifty to one hundred and fifty new cases are being reported daily.

EXPECT CONTRACTS

WILL BE COMPLETED

Republic Has Laid Plans for the Transition to Regular Work As They Expire.

That the Republic Motor Truck Company Incorporated of this city will continue its contracts with the government for Liberty trucks, is expected for the present at least, it was gathered from a short interview with C. G. Rhodes, secretary and treasurer of the company, on Tuesday.

As rapidly as the various contracts that the company has for Liberty trucks are completed, the concern is planning on increasing its production of the trade trucks, and it is expected that there will be a gradual work over from the one truck to the other, as the contracts near termination, so that the conditions of the local factories will probably not be affected in the least, as regards the employment of those now working on the government contract work.

It is expected that there will be a gradual increase in the production of the trade trucks at once, due to the change in the government restrictions covering the use of steel, and it is probable that as rapidly as the restrictions are removed the company will increase the production of these cars until it reaches or passes the number which it attained just previous to the curtailment in the use of steel.

The company is laying plans for the transition from the one work to the other and expects that the men will be shifted from the one kind of work to the other without disturbing the various factory conditions in the least, just as the change was previously made to the war trucks.

There is no question but what the Republic field is as large as before the war, and in many quarters it is believed to be larger due to the preformance of these trucks in the various trade lines, which stamp it as one of the most dependable trucks on the market.

NO FOURTH OF JULY

Says Soldiers Are Not Having Pink Tea Parties.

Parts of a letter from Edwin P. Mahr to Mrs. McLaughlin, of Alma, are printed here:

"An again at the front experiencing real excitement. My division has done some good work in the past and are again at it with the same old spirit, however the opposition at this point is greater than has been the case on other fronts. As a result we are not advancing very rapidly at present, but you ought to see our boys give 'em hell. Each time we throw over one of our artillery batteries the Boches flock over in great numbers and give themselves up for they simply can't endure shell fire, especially the kind we hand them."

"Let me tell you it's no Fourth of July celebration we're having over here nor any pink tea parties either. O, it's a real dead earnest game of war, and I'm glad to say that we're winning for we're slowly wearing Fritz out. The score now stands two to one, Allies' favor; bases full and Uncle Sam at bat."

"Visited a German prisoners' camp near here today. Arrived there just in time to witness their mess, also saw them bring in about one hundred prisoners from the front. Their dinner consisted of 'Red Horse,' corn beef, coffee and hard tack, which is nothing more than our 'iron ration.' It must have tasted like so much (Continued on page four)

WAR WORK FUND QUOTA NOT MADE

Gratiot County Lagging Far Behind on Campaign for Soldiers' Funds.

ALMA IS STILL FAR BEHIND

Estimates this Morning Give Alma Only About Two-Thirds of Needed Amount.

Indications this morning were that the city of Alma would fall down on its quota for the United War Work campaign, unless there was a big change in the rate of subscribing, which would result in a great influx of pledges during today, the last day for volunteering in the campaign.

It was estimated this morning by Rev. Duffy, the local chairman, that the city had achieved only about two-thirds of its quota on the War Work drive, about \$10,000 of the needed \$15,000 having been pledged.

If the quota is not reached through the volunteering it is expected that there will be a solicitation committee out the balance of the week, seeking the needed pledges to send the city over the top with its quota, as the city committee is determined not to let Alma fall behind on its quota, and thus keep up the record that Alma has made, that of subscribing its full quota on each campaign since the war started.

Ora L. Smith of Ithaca, county chairman, stated this morning that Ithaca and the south precinct of Elba township had come the nearest to volunteering their quotas of any places in the county. Ithaca lacked only about \$400.00 of having reached its quota of \$3,750. The work in Elba, which has a large foreign population, is the pleasing feature of the campaign.

There seems to be a big lack of interest in the campaign throughout the county, which has been one of the startling features of the campaign throughout the state, interest seemingly having taken a big drop since the armistice was signed.

O. L. Smith stated that the campaign had been hindered to a great extent throughout the county by the rainy weather, but that it would be continued through the balance of the week and that it was expected that the county would achieve its goal. He stated that many of the precincts had nearly reached their quotas, but that others were lagging to a great extent. It is doubtful if some of these laggards will top their quotas before the week ends.

THANKSGIVING DAY PROCLAMATION

(By the Governor)

"Now, therefore, our God, we thank Thee and praise Thy glorious name."

We, the people of Michigan, have many reasons for thankfulness.

We are thankful that our fertile fields have yielded abundantly of their fruits.

We are thankful that a dread epidemic has been stayed, through the prompt measures taken by the public health authorities throughout the state and the intelligent cooperation of the whole people.

We are thankful that we are Americans, and that no part of our land has been laid waste by the cruel ravages of war.

We are thankful that our Michigan soldiers and sailors, by their deeds of valor, have written a glorious chapter in the annals of the Great War; and that the indomitable spirit of our people has manifested itself to the end.

But most of all we are thankful that this terrible, devastating war, which for more than nineteen months has dominated our thought and dictated our action, is at last practically ended and we shall be free to devote our energies and activities to the constructive arts of peace. The long night of darkness and sorrow and travail and tears and blood is over and the day of blessed peace has dawned upon the world—peace with victory.

Therefore, I, ALBERT E. SLEEPER, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby join the president of the United States in designating "Thursday, the twenty-eighth day of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Prayer."

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, this eighteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen and of the Commonwealth the eighty-second.

High grade pianos for sale at Grinnell Bros., 305 Woodworth. 61-4f

Smoke the best, Wanigas.—64-4f

TO EUROPE

President Vitiably Interested in Peace Pact to Go to France.

It was officially announced this week that following the opening of congress December 2, President Woodrow Wilson would go to France, where he would be better able to take care of preliminary matters in regard to the peace pact which would have to be referred to him.

There are two matters which will come up at the peace table at Versailles in which the United States will be vitally interested, and it is these two matters which have prompted President Wilson to leave the soil of North America, in all probability.

Both are highly important matters, not only to the United States, but to the entire world.

These are contained in President Wilson's fourteen points. One of them is the freedom of the seas and the other a league of nations to preserve peace.

Just how long President Wilson will be in Europe is not known, but indications are that he may be there for some little time.

CITY OF ALMA IS AFTER A NEW DEPOT

Council Takes Formal Action to Direct Mayor King to Start Things Going.

The city council under the lead of Mayor Francis King, took action at an adjourned meeting Tuesday evening which has for its end, a new depot for this city.

Recently the matter of an addition to the present highly inadequate so-called "union depot" came up, and with it came an agitation for a new depot. The addition proposed, was to be constructed at the east end of the present depot for the use of the express company.

When it first came up the ladies of the Civic Improvement league sent a petition to the city council in regard to the proposed addition, and its relation to the park which the ladies were maintaining at the east side of the depot, part of which might be taken for the use of the addition. The ladies suggested some other place for the structure.

This was followed Tuesday night by a thorough investigation of the matter at the council meeting with representatives of the Civic league present.

It was the opinion of those present that the depot now in use was not only entirely inadequate for the needs of the rapidly growing community, but at best was highly unsanitary and a mar to the beauty of the city, and it was determined if possible to secure a new depot for Alma.

With this end in view the council on a motion asked Mayor King to take up the matter with the state railroad commission, asking that it visit Alma and view the depot, with which the city has been burdened for years.

Just what can be done at the present time with the railroads under government control, is not known, but it is believed that some action can be secured that will result favorably for the city before many more months.

Since the proposition of a new depot was started Tuesday evening, after having been dormant for some time, a suggestion was made for a good location for a new structure, this being the triangular piece of ground between Woodworth and State, and between the two railroads. It was pointed out that a depot there would place a railroad on each side of the building, and that to the east there would be sufficient ground for a small park, once it was filled in. A new depot at that point would also mark the passing of another unsightly spot from the city.

BAN REMOVED

Buildings May Be Erected Now, Which Cost Not Over \$10,000.

With the signing of the armistice by Germany, the United States is rapidly getting back on a peace basis, and one of the first bans which was modified, as a result, was that in regard to building.

While the building ban has not been entirely removed, it is now possible to construct a building costing not over \$10,000 without getting a permit, or to make alterations or repairs on a structure, which will not cost more than that sum.

If building or repairs costing over \$10,000 are contemplated it is still necessary to secure a permit from the war board before the work can be started.

FORGED CHECKS

Leo Mallory, a young lad from St. Louis, bumped into considerable trouble the first of the week when he endeavored to cash a forged check for \$25 at the Alma State Savings Bank, the check being on a party at St. Louis. Shortly before this he is said to have cashed a check for \$5.00 on the same party at Shepherd. It is said that the parents of the lad squared up the matter.

Victory Bread best by taste.—69-4c

TRAINING CORPS WILL CONTINUE

S. A. T. C. at Alma College Will Hold Through Year Despite War's End.

TO FEATUTE ACADEMIC WORK

Military Features of Work Will Be Continued, But to a Less Extent.

It had been expected that when word was received that Germany had signed the armistice, that the Students' Army Training Corps in the various colleges, including Alma, would be disbanded by the government, but the latest word is that these organizations will be continued through the college year.

A letter from the divisional headquarters of the S. A. T. C. at Chicago a few days ago, which was sent to all colleges, indicates that there may be some changes in the work that the S. A. T. C. members will be called upon to do during the college year, but the work as a whole is expected to continue just as it has been so far, since the institutions opened for their fall terms.

Very recently Alma college, and some others in the state, received word to enlarge the corps somewhat but since the signing of the armistice this order has been countermanded, and no new members will be taken into the corps.

A few men had been selected at the college to go to officers' training camps, but with the disbanding of these camps, as a result of the peace movement, these men will continue in college and will probably finish the year with the other men of the unit.

It is expected that for the balance of the year greater attention will be given to the class room phase of education than has been the case so far this year, and that the military work will become a secondary matter. No announcement to this effect has been made, but it is said that plans under consideration will alter the work to a considerable extent.

WRITES BROTHER

Theron Cady Writes to Brother Here Telling of Meeting Third Brother.

Irvin H. Cady, employee of the local express company, is in receipt of a letter from his brother, Theron Cady who is now serving service with the Marines in France. The letter in part dated Sept. 23rd and from "Somewhere in France" is as follows:

"Well, I got over here o. k. and had a splendid trip which was uneventful. We were sent right up to the front and the day my company went over the top, I took sick and was sent to the hospital. I am feeling a little better at present and expect to be back soon with my company."

"I saw Loris the other day and he is fine. Our meeting was quite a surprise for us both. My hospital is only seven miles from where he is. As soon as I am feeling better I am going over to the Aviation Field and take a ride with Loris which he has promised me. How would you like to come along? I think I will like the sensation."

"How is everything in the states? I do not think much of the country here or even the girls. They are all behind the times. Write soon."

Mr. Cady also has a brother, Loris, who is first lieutenant in the U. S. air service. He left for France with a number of Leland Sanford University students in California in January, 1917, prior to our entering the war, where he joined the American Ambulance Corps for six months. Later he joined the aviation corps. Loris at one time was connected with the faculty at Interlaken School, La Porte, Ind., and in 1913-14 made a trip around the world with the Sargent Traveling School of New York.

ADVERTISED LETTERS

Advertised list for the week ending November 16, 1918.

Mr. Wm. F. Brien
Mrs. Minnie Bowen
Hiram Bevan
Miss Lena M. Biverly
Mr. Amos M. Benton
Mrs. Bessie Ballard
G. H. Bard
Mr. Earl B. Harter
Mr. D. C. Harpst
L. B. Jack
Arthur H. Lack
Lieut. Frank L. LaChapelle
Chas. McCreary
Mr. Floyd Noals
Miss Gladys Oathman
Harley Ronk
Mr. Sam Roberts
Mr. Kelvin Packer
Mrs. Verne G. Slider
Mr. Albert Travers
Mrs. Joseph Volk
Miss Della Van Vranken
Mrs. Lulu Wood
Miss Bernice Wood (2)

The above letters if not called for will be sent to the Dead Letter Office Dec 2, 1918.

V. P. Cash, P. M.

Smoke the best, Wanigas.—64-4f

COMING HOME

Soldiers Will Be Returned Just as Quickly as Possible.

It is the intention of the war department to return the U. S. soldiers to civilian life just as quickly as possible, keeping in view the rapidly with which they can be used in industrial and agricultural lines.

It is expected that the men who are now in the training camps will for the greater part be those who will be returned to their homes first, and it will probably not be very long before some of the Gratiot men, who were recently called, will be returning.

Those who are in Europe the wounded and the sick are to be returned first, it being expected that the movement of the men will start immediately.

There will be need of a large army in Europe for some time to come, but as rapidly as the need for these men ceases they will be returned, those having seen the most service will be the first to come back, according to present plans.

It is said that the war department is planning on returning divisions from overseas to the environments nearest their homes, and that those which have taken a part in the struggle will be taken to nearby cities for review. According to one paper yesterday, it was said that the Michigan Wisconsin troops would probably be returned to Custer, and from that point sent to Detroit, Grand Rapids and possibly Saginaw to be paraded before being mustered out of service.

This division has won lasting renown in France, and reviews in these cities of these troops would be the occasion for the greatest days that these cities have ever had.

NEW REAL ESTATE

COMPANY FORMED

The William Omelay Company Organized and Will Market Large Subdivision.

The William Omelay company, which will handle real estate and in particular a subdivision here, has been started in this city and expects by the first of December to be ready for business.

This company has purchased one hundred and sixty acres of ground on the east side of North Bridge street, and just to the north of Pine river, a tract of land which for the greater part is high and level, and offers a beautiful view. About one hundred and twenty acres of this tract is to be subdivided into approximately 500 lots, some of which will be just to the north, across the river from the Ruggies and Holmes properties, which have been the occasion of much favorable comment.

In talking to a Record reporter Tuesday Mr. Omelay stated that about fifteen acres in the tract were being reserved for a park. The splendid grove in this property will be included in the park. Along the river there would be an eighty foot boulevard, he mentioned. Both the park and the boulevard will be turned over to landscape gardeners in the spring for beautifying. He has a plan on foot for the erection of a community building in the park and the placing of various swings, etc., for the use of the kiddies and others. These will be for the use of property owners in the subdivision, he stated.

The new concern has rented the large office in the Wright House building, which will be fitted up for its use very soon.

It was stated Tuesday that while it would not be possible to stake out the property until spring, and do the other needed work, the reservations for lots on the property would be open at the offices of the company about the first of next month. He mentioned that the lots would be offered for sale on the boulevard at from \$10.00 a foot up and on the other streets that the lots would sell at from \$75.00 up.

William Omelay, who heads the new concern, has had a wide experience in the real estate business, gained in Detroit, Gary, Youngstown, Duluth and other large cities.

PRACTICE IS STARTED

Preliminary practice for the candidates for the Alma college basketball quintet this year has been started in the Alma college gymnasium, where it is expected that all practice will be held until just previous to the Christmas vacation when the high school gymnasium will be used. To start the practice, class and company teams are being formed at the college for the college championship, and it is expected that after this week about two games a week will be played until the college title is settled.

It is expected that the fight for the college title will bring out a large number of candidates and give Helmer a chance to get a line on the largest amount of material, and possibly uncover some men who may develop into stars once the court season gets under way. As the Alma mentor is forced to build an entirely new team this year, the local season will be watched with interest by the fans.

Victory Bread best by taste.—69-4c

BRENNAN CASE TO START SOON

Second of Trio Held for Murder Will Be Brought to Trial Very Shortly.

ST. JOHNS SCENE OF TRIAL

Celebrated Murder Case is Expected to Last Some Weeks and Attract Wide Attention.

The trial of John F. Brennan, one of the trio arrested last December for the alleged murder of Miss Beatrice Epier of this city on the night of September 4, 1917, at the home of Mrs. Hiram Gilson in this city, will be brought on Monday, December 2, in the Gratiot county circuit court at St. Johns.

Early in the year, following the conviction of Albert Eichorn on a charge of first degree murder in connection with the now famous Epier case, the attorneys for John F. Brennan, the Flint showman, asked Circuit Judge E. J. Moinet for a change on venue on the grounds of prejudice against the defendant and because of the heavy expense that the trial would cause in this county.

Shortly after the motion for the change was made, it was granted and the case changed to the Clinton county circuit, and set for trial.

It came up early in the summer, but owing to the shortage of labor on the farms, it was found to be almost impossible to secure a jury, and after over a week of delay the case was set over, until such a time as a jury could be secured.

More recently the case again came to the attention of the public, when the attorneys of Brennan made a move to get the defendant released on bail, owing to poor health. The attempt to have the court release him on bail was refused by Judge Moinet, and Brennan is still in jail, awaiting trial.

It is expected that when the case is called the first week in December that it will be brought to trial without delay. Every evidence points to the fact that the attorneys are expecting a hot legal battle during the trial, which will probably last for some weeks. It is expected that Ora L. Smith, prosecutor, who retained Ex-Judge Kelly S. Seale, and secured the conviction of Albert Eichorn, will again have Kelly S. Seale retained to aid the state in fighting the case.

Inez Johnson, the third member of the trio arrested a year ago in connection with the murder case, is still in the county jail awaiting trial, and it is very probable that her case will not come up until after the first of the year. No attempt has been made to get a change of venue for her by her attorney, and the present expectations are that she will be tried in this county.

Eichorn, Brennan and Mrs. Johnson were arrested about the middle of December a year ago for the death of Beatrice Epier, who was strangled, while at the home of Mrs. Gilson on the night of September 4, according to the testimony given at the trial of Eichorn early in the present year. Later in the night it was maintained that the body of the girl was taken from the Gilson home and placed near the road on Grover avenue, a number of rods from the home of the girl's parents, where it was found the following morning by Charles Hooper.

The air of mystery which surrounded the case, and the fact that some of the best detectives in the state failed to unravel the mystery, gave it great prominence throughout the state, not only at this time but at the time of the arrest of the three and the trial of Eichorn.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Will Continue Classifying Men in Group to Age of 36.

The members of the local draft board for Gratiot county have received word from the adjutant general, instructing them that the classification ordered by the secretary of war does not include physical examinations.

As a result all physical examinations will be discontinued, but the board will continue and carry to completion at the earliest possible moment, the classification of the registrants under the age of 36 years.

The board has completed its annual report, which is being sent to Washington. The report gives the history of each registrant, giving his nationality, age, physical condition, claims for exemption if any, and whether or not the registrant is married.